24. Mr. A. C. Kuriakose; 25. Mr. K. Madhavan; 26. Mr. K. Madhavan Pillai; 27. Mr. H. B. Mahomed Rowther; 28. Mr. P. S. Mahomed; 29. Mr. Matthew Murikkan; 30. Mr. G. P. Nilakanta Pillai; 31. Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai; 32. Mr. V. J. Oomman; 33. Mr. Muruvelil Pachu Pillai; 34. Mr. K. Padmanabha Panikkar; 35. Mr. Kayalam Parameswaran Pillai; 36. Mr. K. G. Paramesvaran Pillai; 37. Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai; 38. Mrs. M. Poonen Lukose; 39. Mr. L. R. Raja Raja Varma Koil Tampuran; 40. Mr. R. Raman Pillai; 41. Mr. K. N. Ramasubba Aiyar; 42. Mr. Revati Nal Rama Varma Raja; 43. Mr. S. C. H. Robinson; 44. Mr. A. Thanu Pillai; 45. Mr. R. Vaidyalingam Pillai; 46. Mr. A. Vipan; and 47. Mr. T. P. Ramasubba Aiyar.

## DEWAN'S ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

**PRESIDENT**: Members of the Legislative Council,

By command of Her Highness the Maharani Regent I welcome you to the first meeting of the third Council as constituted six years ago.

We have just registered a solemn vow of loyalty with a promise faithfully to discharge the duties we now enter upon. In the fulfilment of this high undertaking let us be guided always by the wise advice given to the members of the Council by His Highness the late Maharaja: to work in harmony, trying our best to understand one another and, in a spirit of confidence and sympathy, making the welfare of the people our common concern. Nor let us forget the gracious trust which Her Highness the Maha Rani Regent so confidently placed in the Council in Her message of three years ago—that it should continue to be a source of strength and help to Her Highness's Government.

With the spirit of these messages abiding with us, we should not find it difficult to attain the lofty ideals set before us by Their Highnesses in co-operating for the wellbeing of our country.

**RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR** (*Nominated, Deputy President*): Mr. President, let me at the outset thank you on behalf of my colleagues and myself for the very warm welcome you have extended to us in the name of Her Highness the Maha Rani Regent. The oath of allegiance which all of us have taken this morning is not in our eyes a conventional item in the programme of the work of the Council this day, but it is an expression, outward expression, of the inner consciousness of all Travancoreans. The spirit of loyalty is inherent in our constitution. And the reference that you made, Sir, to the inspiring message sent to us by His late Highness and the hopes expressed by Her Highness the Maha Rani Regent last time the Council was opened will certainly be borne by us with the deference and respect to which they are entitled as emanating from the Sovereign.

Progress is impossible without co-operation. To us, in an Indian State, really speaking, there cannot be any conflict of interest between the Government as such and thepeople. There may be honest differences of opinion as regards the methods of procedure. Barring that, I feel that the members of this Council will always credit the government

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with honesty of purpose and sincerity of intention. The common goal to be reached by the Government and the people is one of increasing the material and moral welfare of Her Highness's subjects. I feel confident, Sir, that the hopes that you expressed will not be merely a pious expression but a hope that all of us will do our level best to realise within the limitations subject to which we are working.

Once more, Sir, let me thank you for your kind welcome.

**MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil*): Sir, may I be permitted to raise a point of order for the ruling of the Chair? In the notification issued to the members of the Council it was mentioned that a meeting of the Legislative Council would be held for the purpose of electing members to the Finance Committee. My doubt is whether any other business could be transacted in the face of that definite notification issued to the members. That is an insignificant point. But there is a very significant point. Immediately after the meeting is adjourned we will be called upon to elect members for the Standing Finance Committee. What I submit is this. The Finance Committee has no statutory basis. It depends for its existence upon a G. O. issued by the Government of Her Highness the Maha Rani Regent soon after the meeting of a new Council. The purport of the G. O., as it appears on page 25 of the Travancore Legislative Council Manual, seems to be this. Soon after the dissolution of the first Council a G. O. was issued which says :

"The Committee constituted by the order read above ceased to exist with the dissolution of the last Legislative Council. The Government of Her Highness the Maha Rani Regent are now pleased to sanction the formation of a similar Committee for the duration of the next Council also."

In the way in which it is expressed, I understand that after the dissolution of the second Council, if a fresh G. O. is not issued, the original G. O. being vacated with the dissolution of the Council, no new Finance Committee can be elected. In the absence of a fresh G. O. I am afraid it may mean that the Government of Her Highness the Maha Rani Regent do not wish to have a Finance Committee after the dissolution of the second Council. Such a G. O. has not been published in the Government Gazette, nor has any notification been issued, with regard to that to any member of this House. Therefore my point of order is that unless such a G. O. or notification is issued to the members of this House the election of members to the Finance Committee may be invalid.

**MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI** (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Sir, the member is right in saying that the election of members to the Finance Committee is not a statutory function; and I believe this House functioning as such will not be called upon to elect members to the Finance Committee. After the House is adjourned or rather at the time of adjourning the House the President will announce that the non-official members should meet to elect the non-official members to the Finance Committee. Although this has been printed in the agenda paper, this House *as such* will not be called upon to elect the Finance Committee. It seems to me therefore that no point of order, relating to the business of the House as such, arises now.

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MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know whether the House may elect without the G. O.? Will such an election be valid?

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): There is no question of validity or invalidity as the House is not called upon to exercise any statutory function.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Does the Law Member attach any importance to this G. O. which says that after one Council is dissolved the Finance Committee ceases to exist?

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): It has significance.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know whether a fresh G. O. has been issued?

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Due intimation will be given to the members before they are called upon to elect members to the Finance Committee.

PRESIDENT: I can reassure you on the point, Mr. Nilakanta Pillai. The G. O. was issued either last evening or this morning. You will probably find it in the Press Room of the Secretariat.

## STATEMENT LAID ON THE TABLE.

MR. K. N. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Sir, under Rule 52 of the Legislative Council Rules, I beg to lay on the table the following statement of expenditure authorised by the Government under section 16 (9) of the Legislative Council Regulation, II of 1097.

| Item. | Amount. Rs. | Particulars. |
|---|---|---|
| Demand XVI. Medical Department. | 3,687 | For payment of a non-recurring grant to the London Mission Hospital at Marthandom for extending the premises of the Hospital and constructing additional blocks. |
| Demand XVII. Chemical Examiner, Ayurveda and Sanitation. | 11,758 | For expenses in connection with plague preventive measures in the Dexicolam Division. |
| Demand XIX. Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments. | 4,500 | For purchase of animals for the Zoo. |

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